

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A firing device for use with an injector of the type having a barrel-like body enclosing a spring-loaded plunger to act on a piston within a capsule carrying a dose, and a sliding trigger on one side of the body actuatable to release the plunger spring to drive the plunger to cause ejection of the dose from a needle at the forward end of the body, the action of the trigger being forwards against a resistance, the firing device comprising a generally cylindrical housing surrounding the injector, a forward portion of the housing, open at its forward end for projection of the injector needle, containing a locator spring for exerting a light rearward force on the injector to cause the needle to be located within said housing, and a rearward portion of the housing having an axially movable, forward spring-loaded actuating member to cooperate with the injector trigger, an external cocking mechanism operable to energize the spring loading of said actuating member with a spring force greater than said light rearward force, and an operating element to release that loading to cause the actuating member firstly, acting through the injector trigger, to shoot the injector forward against the light

rearward force of said locator spring to a needle projecting position, and secondly to overcome said resistance in the injector and operate the injector trigger to cause ejection of the dose from the injector, said generally cylindrical housing being in two parts separably secured together in end-to-end relationship thereby releasably to contain a said injector, and

wherein the spring-loaded member is generally tubular to embrace the injector, a coil spring acting between its rear end and an internal abutment at the rear end of the housing and wherein the cocking mechanism is a sleeve over the rearward portion of the housing with at least one lateral projection from the tubular member projecting through an axially parallel slot in the housing into an axially parallel slot in the sleeve, the cocking action being to pull the sleeve rearwardly so that the projection engaged by the forward end of its slot takes the tubular member with it until there is snap engagement between the tubular member and the barrel, the injector being pushed back at the same time by said spring means.

2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) A firing device as claimed in claim [[2]] 1, wherein an axial slot, open from the forward end of the tubular member, receives the trigger and thereby locates the injector rotationally.

4-8. (canceled)

9. (currently amended) A firing device for use with an injector of the type having a barrel-like body enclosing a spring-loaded plunger to act on a piston within a capsule carrying a dose, and a sliding trigger on one side of the body actuatable to release the plunger spring to drive the plunger to cause ejection of the dose from a needle at the forward end of the body, the action of the trigger being forwards against a resistance, the firing device comprising a generally cylindrical housing surrounding the injector, a forward portion of the housing, open at its forward end for projection of the injector needle, containing a locator spring for exerting a light rearward force on the injector to cause the needle to be located within said housing, and a rearward portion of the housing having an axially movable, forward spring-loaded actuating member to cooperate with the injector trigger, an external cocking mechanism operable to energize the spring loading of said actuating member with a spring force greater than said light rearward force, and an operating element to release that loading to cause the actuating member firstly, acting through the injector trigger, to shoot the injector forward against the light rearward force of said locator spring to a needle projecting position, and secondly to overcome said resistance in the injector and operate the injector trigger to cause ejection of the dose from the injector, wherein the spring-loaded member is generally tubular to embrace the injector, a coil spring acting

between its rear end and an internal abutment at the rear end of the housing, and the cocking mechanism is a sleeve over the rearward portion of the housing with at least one lateral projection from the tubular member projecting through an axially parallel slot in the housing into an axially parallel slot in the sleeve, the cocking action being to pull the sleeve rearwardly so that the projection engaged by the forward end of its slot takes the tubular member with it until there is snap engagement between the tubular member and the barrel, the injector being pushed back at the same time by said spring means.

10. (previously presented) A firing device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the sleeve carries the operating element which can only register in a position to release the snap engagement when the sleeve is moved forwards again after the device has been cocked.

11. (previously presented) A firing device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the operating element is a button which engages in a slot in the housing and which has two different positions between which it can be shifted circumferentially of the sleeve only when that is forwards, wherein in one said position it acts by co-operation with a step in the slot as a preventer against the sleeve being slid rearwardly, that position also being the one, when the sleeve is moved forwards after cocking, in which the device can be fired, and wherein in the other said position, it allows the external sleeve to be slid

rearwardly (and forwardly again), but is ineffective, when pressed, to fire the device.

12. (previously presented) A firing device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the device is for an injector having a rear end rotary adjusting knob to set the amount of dose to be ejected, and wherein the sleeve, in its forward position with the device cocked, leaves this knob exposed whereby, before firing, the user can rotate the knob to the required dosage.

13. (previously presented) A firing device as claimed in claim 12, wherein marks on the knob register with a mark on the end of the sleeve to assist gauging the amount of dosage set.